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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/249,489	02/12/1999	TETSUJIRO KONDO	80398.P198	9991

7590 12/21/2005

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EXAMINER

CHAUDRY, MUJTABA M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2133

DATE MAILED: 12/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Supplemental
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/249,489

Examiner

Mujtaba K. Chaudry

Applicant(s)

KONDO ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/3/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-73,75,76,78-90 and 92-95.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

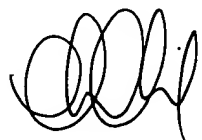
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/3/2005
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

 11/25/05


**GUY LAMARRE
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

Information Disclosure Statement

The IDS submitted October 3, 2005 has been entered and considered by the examiner.

Reasons for Allowance

Claims 1-73, 75, 76, 78-90 and 92-95 are allowed. The following are the reasons for allowance:

Independent claim 1 of the present application teaches a method for recovering lost/damaged data by generating hypotheses for the lost/damaged data within a received bitstream of encoded image data, wherein each hypotheses specifies a decoding for lost/damaged data. Scores are generated for the hypotheses and the one with the best score is selected. Decoding only of the lost/damaged data is performed according to the selected hypotheses. Another hypothesis is also then evaluated and selective data is flagged base on the flags on which error recovery process is performed. The prior art of record, namely Dent, teaches (abstract) a communication system wherein a message to be transmitted is used to generate an error detection checkword. Both the message and checkword are encoded into a communication traffic signal using an error correction code. An error correction decoder decodes a received traffic signal, generating a plurality of candidate decoded signals and quantitative measurements of the reliability of the candidates. An error detection calculator tests the most reliable candidate for compliance between its decoded message and checkword. If there is compliance, that candidate and its decoded message are selected. If there is no compliance, the next most reliable candidate is tested for compliance, the selection process continuing until compliance is found. If no compliance is found among all the candidates, an error corrector scrutinizes the most reliable candidate for the presence of a correctable error, and the corrected candidate is re-tested for

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compliance. If there is still no compliance, the next most reliable candidate is scrutinized for the presence of a correctable error, and the corrected candidate is retested for compliance, the process continuing until compliance is found, up to the limits of the error correction capability of the error corrector. However, none of the prior arts of record teach or fairly suggest the step of generating hypotheses for lost/damaged data within a received bitstream of encoded image data, wherein each hypothesis specifies a decoding only for the lost/damaged data. Therefore, claim 1 of the present application is allowable over the prior arts of record.

Independent claims 16, 30, 40, 41, 52, 63, 71, 72, 81 and 89 include similar limitation as those found in independent claim 1 and therefore are allowable for similar reasons.

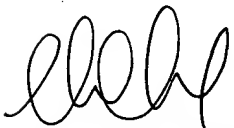
Dependent claims 2-15, 17-29, 31-39, 42-51, 53-62, 64-70, 73, 75, 76, 78-80, 82-88, 90, and 92-95 depend from allowable independent claims and therefore are allowable as well.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mujtaba K. Chaudry whose telephone number is 571-272-3817. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur 7:30 - 4:30 pm & 2nd and 4th Fri 8-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert DeCady can be reached on 571-272-3819. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Mujtaba Chaudry
AU 2133
November 25, 2005



GUY LAMARRE
PRIMARY EXAMINER